

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 9 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 9 are independent. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 9 are amended. Claim 8 is cancelled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein.

On pages 2-3, the Office Action rejects claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claim 8 is hereby cancelled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. For at least the foregoing reason, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st paragraph, be withdrawn.

On pages 3-11, the Office Action rejects claims 1-3 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Gering ("A System for Surgical Planning and Guidance Using Image Fusion and Interventional MR") in view of US Patent No. 6,421,454 to Burke et al. (hereinafter "Burke"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 3, 4 and 9, from which claims 2, 6 and 7 depend, recite, "wherein an object is thereby displayed from a plurality of angles in three dimensions." It is respectfully submitted that neither Gering nor Burke disclose, teach or suggest, in combination with the other subject matter recited in the rejected claims "wherein an object is thereby displayed from a plurality of angles in three dimensions."

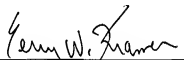
Claim 8 is cancelled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. Claims 2, 6 and 7 are allowable based at least on their dependence from claim 1 for the reasons stated above in connection with claim 1, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter recited therein.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1-3 and 6-9 as allegedly being unpatentable over Gering in view of Burke be withdrawn.

Conclusion

While we believe that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the correspondence attorney listed below in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,
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